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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/550,278	04/14/2000	Kazuyuki Kurita	0879-0261P	9589

7590 10/21/2004  
Birch Stewart Kolasch & Birch LLP  
P O Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

EXAMINER

JERABEK, KELLY L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/550,278

Applicant(s)

KURITA, KAZUYUKI

Examiner

Kelly L. Jerabek

Art Unit

2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**Claims 1-3 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cortjens et al. US 5,598,209.**

Re claim 1, Cortjens discloses in figure 1 a videoconferencing system capable of remotely controlling the pan, tilt, zoom, and focus of cameras (col. 5, lines 30-42). The videoconferencing system allows a user to use an operation part (mouse 12) to send out a control signal (mouse movement signals) to remotely control a camera to be panned (col. 6, lines 20-34). The videoconferencing system utilizes converters (11A,11B), controller (10), network (23), and pan/tilt unit control node (17) in order to convert signals from the mouse (12) into network standard signals and convert the network standard signals into signals appropriate for the pan/tilt mechanism (col. 6, lines 20-53). The examiner is reading the converters (11A,11B,11E) as the data

converter because the videoconferencing system uses these converters (11A,11B,11E) to convert signals from the mouse (12) into network standard signals and convert the network standard signals into signals appropriate for the pan/tilt mechanism. Thus, the data converter includes converters (11A,11B,11E) that detect a data format of a communication data outputted from the operation part (mouse 12) and convert the communication data into a data format (network standard signals) used in serial communication which conforms with a data format for the remote control pan head if the data format of the communication data differs from the data format of the remote control pan head, and transmit the converted communication data (network standard signals) to the remote control pan head (col. 6, lines 20-53).

Re claim 2, the controller (10) disclosed by Cortjens serves as a recognition device since the controller (10) determines that the network standard control signals provided by converter (11B) signify a mouse movement corresponding for a selected camera to pan left (col. 6, lines 34-38). Therefore, controller (10) automatically recognizes a type of data format of the communication data from the operation part (mouse 12).

Re claim 3, Cortjens states that it is possible for a single converter to service two or more devices, such as converter (11B) servicing mouse (12) and joystick (18) (col. 6, lines 2-4). When sending information regarding the user's movement of devices (12) or (18) converter (11B) also sends information as to whether the activity is

associated with the mouse (12) or the joystick (18) (col. 6, lines 5-8). Therefore, since the converter (11B) sends information to a controller (10) as to whether a user is using a mouse (12) or a joystick (18) the converter (11B) must include a device (switching device) that determines whether the user is using the mouse (12) or the joystick (18). Thus, the user is able to designate a type of data format of the communication data outputted from the operation part (12,18) depending on whether the user chooses to operate the mouse (12) or the joystick (18).

### ***Contacts***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kelly L. Jerabek whose telephone number is 703-305-8659. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for submitting all Official communications is 703-872-9306. The fax phone number for submitting informal communications such as drafts, proposed amendments, etc., may be faxed directly to the Examiner at 703-746-3059.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KLJ

  
WENDY R. BARBER  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600